## PROCLAMATION. OUEEN'S THE

GENERAL SCOTT'S LETTER.

MR. BRIGHT'S SPEECH.

LETTER FROM M'R. COBDEN. The Latest Opiv.ion of the Lon-

don Times,

PORTLAND, Me., Dec. 18, 1861. The steam hip Jura, Captain Aiton, from Liverpool on the afternoon of the 5th and Londonderry on the 6th

tant, arrive d here this morning. The steams hip Edinburg, from New York, arrived at

The ster amship Neva Scotism, from Fortland, arrived a

Puris r Jenkins reports that the Jura passed the City of Man-Juster outward bound off Cape Bace on the 14th

ussief arrest at Cardiff for having murdered the mate and

The continersal news is of alight importance The Pairie says that the arrest of the Maronite agen

of France in Lebanon (Syria) is an insult which the go-

The dates per the Jura are one-day later than those

General Scott's Letter on the American Difficulty.

My DEAR Sig-You were right in doubting the declara-tion imputed to me, to wit: that the Cabineti at Wash, ington had given orders to soize Messrs. Mason and Sitthat the government had had that point under considers tion. At the time of my leaving New York it was not known that the San Jacinto had returned to the American seas; and it was generally supposed those persons had escaped to Cuba for the purpose of re-embarking inthe Nashville, in pursuit of which vessel the James Adger and other cruisers had been despatched.

I think I can satisfy you in a few words that you have no serious occasion to feel concerned about our relations with England, if, as her rulers profess, she has no dispo sition to encourage the dissensions in America.

In the first place it is almost superfluous to say to you that every instinct of prudence as well as of good neigh berhood prompts our government to regard no honorable sacrifice too great for the preservation of the friendship of Great Britain. This must be obvious to all the world. At no period of our history has her friendship been of more importance to our people—at no period has ou government been in a condition to make greater conces sions to preserve it. The two nations are united by int rests and sympathies-commercial, social, political and religious ... almost as the two arms to one body, and no must barm the other in a corresponding degree.

I am persuaded that the British government can enter

I am persuaded that the British government can enter tain no doubt unon this point; but if it does I feel that I may take it upon myself to say that the President of the United States, when made aware of its existence, will lose no opportunity of dispelling it.

Nor is there anything, I venture to affirm. In the seizure of these robel emissaries which ought to receive an unfriently construction from Enghand. Her statement will not question the legal right of an American vessel-of-war to search any commercial vessel justly suspected of transporting contraband of war; that right has never been surrendered by England; it was even guarantee? to her by the Treaty of Paris, and British guas frowning down upon nearly every strait and minad sea upon the globe are conclusive evidence that the regards this right as one the effective of which may be not yet entirely extinguished. Of course there is much that is irritating and vexatious in the exercise of this right under the most favorable circumstances, and it is to be hoped the day is not far distant when the maritime States of the world will agree in placing reatral commerce beyond the reach of such vexations. The United States government has been striving to this end for more than fifty years; to this end, early in the present century and in its infancy as a nation, it embarked in a war with the greatest man! Fower in the world; and it is even now a persistent suiter at every maritime court in Europe for a more liberal recognition of the rights of neutrals than any of the other great maritime nations have yet been disposed to make. But till those rights are secured by proper international goarantees upon a comprehensive and enduring basis of course England cannot complain of an act for which in all its material bearings her own naval history affords such numerous precedents.

Whether the captives from the Trent were contraband

of an act for which in all its material bearings her own available of a such numerous precedents.

Whether the captives from the Trent were contraband of war or not, is a question which the two governments can have no serious difficulty in agreeing upon. If Mr. Seward cannot satisfy Earl Russell that they were, I have no doubt Earl Russell will be able to satisfy Mr. Seward that they were not. If they were, as all authorities concurr in admitting, agents of the rebellion, it will be difficult to satisfy impartial minds that they were any less contraband than a file of robel soldiers or a battery of hostile cannon. contraband than a file of robel soldiers or a battery of hostile cannon.

But even should there be a difference of opinion upon

amity which the two countries profess a desire to pregerve and cultivate.

The prefence that we ought to have taken the Trent
into port, and had her condemned by a prize court, in
order to justify our seizure of four of her passengers, furnishes a very narrow basis on which to fix a serious controversy between two great nations. Stated in other
words, an oftene would have been less if it had
been greater. The wrong done to the British flag
would have been mitigated if, instead of seizing
the four rebels, we had seized the ship, detained
all her passengers for weeks, and confiscated her cargo.
I am not surprised that Captain Wilkes took a different
view of his duty, and of what was due to the friendly relations which subsisted between the two governments.
The renowned common sense of the English people, I believe, will approve of his effort to make the discharge of a
very unpleasant duty as little vexatious as possible to all
innocent perties.

leve, will approve of his effort to make the discharge of a very unpleasant duty as little vexatious as possible to all innocent perties.\*

If, under these circumstances, England should deem it her duty, in the interest of civilization, to insist upon the restoration of the men taken from under the protection of her flag, it will be from a conviction, without doubt, that the law of nations in regard to the rights of neutrals, which she has taken the leading part in establishing, requires revision, and with a suitable disposition on her part to establish those rights upon a just, humane and philosophic basis. Indeed I am happy to see an inimation in one of the leading metropolitan journals which goes far to justify this inference. Referring to the decisions of the English Admirality Courts now quoted in defence of the actuare of the American rebels on board the Tront, the London Times of the 28th of November Eays:—

Eays:—

So far as the authorities go, the testimony of international law writers is all one way, that a belligerent war cruiser has the right to stop and visit and search any merchant ship upon the high seas. \* \* \* \* But it must be remembered that these decisions were given under circumstances very different from those which now occur. Steamers in those days did not exist, and mail vessels carrying letters wherein all the nations of the world have immediate interest, were unknown. We were fighting for existence, and we did is those days what we should neither de nor allow others to do, nor expect ourselves to be allowed to do in these days.

In those days what we should neither do nor allow others to do, nor expect ourselves to be allowed to do in these days. If England, as we are here encouraged to hope, is disposed to do her part in strapping war of half its borrors by accepting the policy long and persistently urged upon her by our government, and commended by every principle of justice and humanity, she will find no ground, in the visit of the Trent, for controversy with our government. I am sure the President and people of the United States would be but too happy to let these men go free unnatural and unparedonable as their offences have been if by it they could emancipate the commerce of the world. Greatly as it would be to our disadvantage at this present crisis to surrender any of those maritime privileges of beliggerents which, sanctioned by the laws of nations, I feel that I take no responsibility in saying that the United States will be faithful to her traditional policy apon this subject, and to the spirit of her political matitutions.

that the Cinted states will be tathful to her traditional policy apon this subject, and to the spirit of her political institutions.

On the other hand, should England be unprepared to make a corresponding sacrifice; should she feet that she could not yet afford to surrender the advantages which the present maritime code gives to a dominant naval power, of course she will not put herself in a false pesition by asking us to do it. In either case, therefore, I do not see how the friendly relations of the two governments are in any immediate danger of being disturbed. That the over prompt recognition, as belligerents, of a body of men, however large, so long as they constituted a manifest minority of the nation, wounded the feelings of any countrymen deept I will not affect to deny, nor that that act, with some of its logical consequences which have siready occurred, has planted in the breasts of many the suspicion that their kindred in England wish them evil a fleer than good, but the statesmen to whom the political in to safe of these two great people are confided act upon high we responsibly ties and with better lights, and you may be a suspicion of the service of the control of the service of the control of the service of the sum of

The London Star thinks that General Scott's letter will receive a bea. By response in England as a me sage of

The London Tim. w says that General Scott, like his countrymen, is rathe v inclined to disavow the conception of the outrage than to repudiate it now that it has been

The London Herald won, ters how the old soidler would have remedied the matter ' had the outrage been perpetrated by a British war s. camer on a United States THE QUEEN'S PROCLAMATION.

[From the London danette Extraordinary of Dec. 4.] A PROCLAMATION.

Wh ereas in and by a certain statute, made and passed the Parliament held in the 16th and 17th years of our reign, and entitled "The Customs Consolidation Act, 1853," it is, among other things, declared and enacted as follows, that is to say:-

cuncil, be prohibited either to be experted or carried constwise—Arms, ammunition, and gunpowder, military and naval stores, and any articles which her Majesty shall nereasing the quantity of military and paval stores, proood by man; and if any goods so prohibited shall be exported from the United Kingdom, or carried coastwise, or so water borne to be so exported or carried, they shall be

And whereas we have thought fit, by and with the advice of our Privy Council, to prohibit either to be export ed or carried coastwise the articles hereinafter mention ed, that is to say:—Arms, ammunition and military stores (including percussion caps and tubes), and also lead (being an article which we judge capable of being converted into or made useful in increasing the quantity of military or naval stores), we, therefore, by and with the advice of our Privy Council, and by this our royal proclamation, do order and direct that, from and after the date hereof, all arms, ammunition and military stores (including percussion caps and tubes), and also lead, shall be, and the same are hereby, prohibited either to be exported from the United Kingdom or carried coast

Given at our Court at Windsor, this 4th day of Decem of our reign.

GOD save the QUEEN. At the Court at Windsor, the 4th day of December, 1861. Present, the QUREN's Most Excellent Majesty in

Whereas it has appeared expedient and necessary to her Majesty, by and with the advice of her Privy Council, to prohibit the articles hereinafter mentioned to be exported or carried coastwise from th Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, and Sark, and the isle of Man respectively, except as herein-after provided. Her Majesty is therefore pleased by and with the advice of her Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, that from and after the publication of this order in the said islands respectively he following articles-namely, arms, ammunition, and military stores, including percussion caps and tubes, and also lead, shall be, and the same are hereby prohibited to be exported or carried coastwise from the said islands of Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney and Sark, and the isle of Man respectively, except with the licence of the Lieuten ant Governor or other officer administering the government of such islands respectively, for that purpose firs

And the Lieutenant Governors of Her Majesty's islands of Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, and Sark, and the Isle of Man respectively for the time being, are to give the neces sary directions herein as to them may appertain. ARTHUR HELPS.

The proclamation was in time to stop large quantities f arms in course of shipment to the United States.

It was rumored that the export of saltpetre to certain

It was reported that privateers, both Union and robel, were cruising in the chops of the English channel, near

Two British ships-of-war have been ordered to proceed nmediately to the West Indies to act as a convoy and protect Fuglish mail steamers.

Speech on American Affairs.

Mr. Bright, M. P., was entertained at dinner by his felow townsmen, at the Rochdale Public Hall, on the evening of December 4. There were about two hundred and fifty gentlemen present, among whom were Mr. Bazley, M. P., Mr. George Wilson and the Mayor of Mancheste

The galleries were occupied by ladies.

The Mayor of Rochdale presided, and gave in succession the toasts of "The Queen," "The Houses of Parliament," and 6 The Health of Mr. Cobden, M. P.," all of which were cordially received. In the course of his address, in pro-posing Mr. Cobden's health, he read a long letter received from that gentleman, in which, after expressing regret at his unavoidable absence, he proceeded to discuss the present state of our relations with America. As regards the seizure of Messrs. Slidell and Mason, he arged the propriety of suspending a final judgment on the subject until we had had time to hear whether the American government had authorized the act of their naval officer, and, if so, on what ground they instilled the proceeding. It had been assumed in certain quarters that when our legal authorities have given their epinion on the point at issue the question was satisful, and that we have only to proceed to enforce the award. But the matter in dispute must be decided, not by British, but international law, and if the President's government should assume the responsibility of the act of their naval officer, they will claim for the reasoning and precedents of their legal advisors the same consideration which they are bound to give to the arguments of the British law officers. Whatever the issue of the legal controversy, however, we cannot hope to bring the question to a more satisfactory issue by an appeal to arms. Mr. Cobden then argues for a complete revision of the international maritime code, especially as regards merchant vessels in time of war, and concludes by expressing his belief that any interference by England or France in the affairs of America, whether by breaking the blockade or prematurely acknowledging the independence of the South, will only aggravate and protract the quarrel. A service war might be kindled in the South, leading ultimately, perhaps, to the destruction of the cotton plant itself throughout the Southern States of America.

SPEECH OF MR. BRIGHT. the subject until we had had time to hear whether the

The health of Mr. Bright was received with great en thusiasm. His speech, in reply, after a brief acknowledg-ment of their kindness to himself, was entirely devoted to the subject of the war in America. That struggle was one of the highest interest to England and humanity at large, Eighty five years ago they were colonies sprung from this country, and already numbering a population of 3,000,000 souls. A year ago they were the United States of america, and comprised thirty millions of people. In agriculture and manufactures no country in the world, except our own, could be placed in comparison with them. They were equally distinguished for their inventions, their enterprises, their schools, their prisons and their religious establishments. The public expenditure of these United States was £23,600.000 a year, and they were able to beast an amount of comfort, prosperity and abounding plenty such as no other country in any age has displayed. But there was another side. While this country becurred the utmost liberty for the white population, it held the black population in bondage and degradation. England sowed the seeds of the slavery system. Jefferson, two years before the Declaration of Independence, issued a protest against the conduct and policy of the English government in preventing the colonies from forbidding the importation of fresh negroes from Africa. Ultimately every State was left to legislate on slavery for itself. But the growth of cotton has increased since that time, and become an article of value to an extent which no man dreami of when Jefferson wrote. And this cotton, cultivated under the slavery system, now threatened the overthrow of that which is a million times more valuable—the great republic of the United States. Mr. Bright then referred to the act of secession on the part of the South. Newspapers say this question of secession was much like that which occurred when the colonies revolted against the mother country. The question in 1789 was whether a corrupt ministry in Downing street and a boroughtness gering Parliament in Westminster should tax three millions unrepresented colonists without their consent. Now, the representation of the South in the American legislature was not only complete, but in excess. Three out of every five slaves are counted as America, and comprised thirty millions of people. boroughmongering Parliament in Westminster should tax three millions unrepresented colonists without their consent. Now, the representation of the South in the American legislature was not only complete, but in excess. Three out of every five slaves are counted as white men, and the consequence is that the South has returned about twenty more members than it had a natural right to do. This shows that there was no similarity between the two cases. Another reason for the secession alleged on this side is the protective tariff. No American, however, attributes the dissolution of the Union to that cause. The South has been dominant during the whole period since the Declaration of Lindependence, and the tariff has existed during that time. There have no doubt been occasional symptoms of dissatisfaction, but when Congress met a twelvamenth ago, to discover how the Union could be maintained, among all the compromiser suggested the question of the tariff was never referred to. Whatever the influence of the tariff may be, it must also be remembered that it is as peruicions to the West as to the South but the West has not seceded. The question is not one of protection or free trade. It is of a different and graver character. For thirty years slavery has been constantly coming to the surface as the difficulty of American politicians. The object of the South in seconding is to escape from the votes of those who wish to limit the area of clave territory. What course, asked Mr. Bright, should England pursue? We should be neutral. We were noutral in Italy, but were not neutral in Supparted on the shores of that country, the sympathy of England was spoken of the Northern States of America, although one or two gatesmen, as, for instance, the Duke of Argyll and Lord Stalley, had spoken with liberality, fairness and friendliness of the United States. Earl Rusgell, however, at Newcastle, had misrepresented the question when easified the North were contending for smpte and the South for independence; and the Jewing Journal, since L

this fratricidal strife? Why should the North and South not separate peaceably?" Mr. Bright throughout thought there were insurmountable generaphical obtacks to a separation, as well as strong political objectives. If the Northern States had done what some newspaper writers advised, and had allowed the South to withdraw from the Union without making any effort to retain them, we should have been told that democracy was a failure, that the Northern government was guilty of cowardice, and worthy only of unmeasured centempt. These candid friends tell us American fredom is gone, the Habess Corpus act has been suspended, and other laws and liberties have been endangered. But had not we gaspended the Habess Corpus act during the frish rebeilion of 1848, and if an insurgent army ever encamped within sight of London what regard would government have for the personal liberty of the subject in any measures they took for securing the safety of the State? We are told that it would be better for us if the United States were divided, and Sir Edward Lytton had predicted that there would ultimately be four or five separate nations or federations. The former he considered a mean argument, and, as for the latter, he would rather see the whole of that wast continent combined in one great federation of States, where there would be no custom houses, but freedom everywhere, equality everywhere, law everywhere, and room for the expanding energies of our race. Referring to the solure of the Confederate commissioners, he said he considered the act both impolite and bad, but it might turn out to be wholly unauanthorized by the American government, and in this case there was no doubt they would make ample reparation. No government had evinced a greater desire to be guided by wise and moderate commels in the construction of cases under the maritime law. It was said this was only one of a series of acts showing ill will on the part of the North. There would be irritating accidents in the course of this struggle. Let us be calm. Revelled ho

this fratricidal strike? Why should the North and South not separate peaceably?" Mr. Bright throughout though

The Lutest Opinions of the London Times

[From the London Times, Dec. 5.] General Scott denies that it was in direct obedience t Commodore Wilkes perpetrated the outrage upon our flag So far, so well. General Scott, however, has only denied what no one ever believed. Our special corresp washington had, by anterpation, forthed us against giving credence to any such fabrication. He had already told us that the act of the captain of the San Jacinto was his own, and that he had undertaken this enterprise as a means of destinguishing himself. It is not, however, reassuring to find that General Scott, like his countrymen, is rather inclimed to disavow the conception of this act than to repudiate it now that it has been done. He wishes to look upon it as a very small affair, and he does not seem to be able to see that the question of what is contraband of war cannot be as lawfully determined by a havel officer at sea as by an intermitional prize court. He thinks that, after a public insult has been offered by the officer of one country to the flag of another, the first thing to follow is, not a complete restitution, but an argument between the ministers of the two countries whether what has been done in violence might or might not have been legally effected in a peaceful manner. General Scott grievously mistakes the feeling of this country if he believes that good relations between America and England are to be preserved by any such suggestions as these. We have sent to Washington, not to open a controversy, but to demand a restitution. When that has been done we shall be happy to discuss the other questions at issue at any length the Americans may please. giving credence to any such fabrication. He had alread

has been done we shall be halpy to discuss the other questions at issue at any length the Americans may please.

At present, however, the only question open for discussion is the right of an efficer of a belligerent Power to take by force and carry away the passengers and cargo of a neutral ship. We must do the Americans the justice to say that they have seen this difficulty, and have made some clamsy attempts to meet it. Of course, it cannot be argued upon principle. The consequences of such a rule would be universal piracy. It is attempted, therefore, by some writers, and even by some who ought to know better and who do know better, to justify what has been done by Commodore Wilkes—for we cantiously abstain from treating this as an act of the federal States until they have formally adopted it—by showing that similar things have been done before. One gentleman at Boaton, who is, we presume, a near relative of Senator Summer, and who is said to write under his inspiration, quotes what he sails a case in point we imprisely an envey from the insurgents in American's he is an envey from the insurgents in American's he is an envey from the insurgents in American's he is entirely mistaken as to the one important fact in his case, for the ship on board which Mr. Laurens was captured was not Dutch but American; but he is equally mistaken if he thinks that, even were his case parallel to that of the Trent in all its circumstances, it would be allowed by us, or by France, or by Russia, or by Spain, or by any civilized maritime nation, to have any bearing upon the question as to what is the law of nations at the present day. A hundred wrongs will not make a right. The pages of history, as far back as history can be read, are speckled with deeds of violence and crime, but these acts are not cited by moralists as proofs that such deeds now constitute virtues.

If the Cabinet of Washington propose to contend that the cabinet of Washington propose to contend that

acts are not cited by moralists as proofs that such deeds now constitute virtues.

If the Cabinet of Washington propose to contend that we must in the year 18G1 submit to endure at the hands of their cruleers every indignity which our ancestors have ever at any time inflicted upon a neutral ling, then we understand what will be the issue between us. If they do not propose to go this length, these resuscitations of heig buried circumstances are irrelevant, and are in themselves a sent asset of weakness. There is nothing which could not be proved by such precedents as these. In the year 1804 the then government of France sent a detachment with artislery across the frontier of a neutral State, and there select a refugee, brought him to France, tried him by a court martial and shot him. This is a In the year Isoa the then government of France sent a detachment with artialery across the frontier of a neutral State, and there seized a refugee, brought him to France, tried him by a court martial and shot him. This is a precedent which the world is nover likely to forget, for the name of the victim was the Duc D'Enghien. The French, however, would be a little surprised if the Americans were to think themselves justified by this precedent in landing near Havre and carrying off some captain of a Confederate craft. So, at a date so late as June, 1855, an American captain, in the harbor of Smyrna, undertook to demand possession of a Hungarian refugee whom the commander of the Austrian ship of-war Usasro had kidnapped from the shore. The American cleared for action, and proposed to fight the Austrian in the harbor for the pessession of a person who had no more claim on America than on England. The Americans, however, would scarcely hold this precedent to justify the captain of an English frigate in soizing in the streets of New York an English brigate in soizing in the streets of New York as English subject accused of treason against the government of England, nor would they be satisfied to see substantial justice done against the English frigate by a French ship-of-war which should open its ports and fire a broadside into her in New York harbor, Again, the federal Americans only the other day seized upon some travellers from California, on the ground of their being suspected of "Southern proclivities," and carried them as prisoners through the neutral State and the opposition of the small force which that State was able to produce. Will the Cabinet of Washington be gilling that we should, on the first occasion, appeal Crities precent as a rule of international law? Will Napoleon Id. or the Emperor of Austrian be justified in solving a French or Austrian refugee in, let us say, Canada, and bringing him through the federal States down to New York for embarcation? We can give this Americans plenty more of these pr

wen as the weak, and the very acts which the Boston purists would adopt as precedents were those which armed all the North against us, and set us lighting with great maritime leagues. International law, like municipal law, changes with the necessities of society, and both theneral Scott and his friends at home must be prepared to accept as international law, not what we or others have done in old times, but what we should be permitted curselves to do in the present day.

The excitement in relation to the Trent affair continued

The London Times city article says that the stock market on the 4th inst, was more heavy and unsettled than at any period since the commencement of the diffi culty. At the close, however, there was a slight rally in

The strength of the American navy was being canvassed in England.

The London Times says that, although the federal navy scarcely presents a dozen worthy antagonists, it would he imprudent in the extreme to despise the power of the Americans at sea. We have done this once, and paid the cost of our thoughtlessness. The Americans will do little; but what little they do they will do well. They will give our heavy squadrons a wide berth and concentrate their

Hostile demonstrations were being made in various ports of England. One was made at Bristol on the departure of an Armstrong battery from that place for ship-ment via Melbourne to Canada.

The London Morning Post is sanguine that although the European intervention in Maxico will be carried out there will ensue a bloodless success, which will enable the three Powers to take possession of these material guarantees which have been thought necessary

France.

can difficulty are contradictory.

The Paris correspondent of the Lady News learns that when Mr. Bideil was taking leave of his wife on board the Trent, he placed his despatches in her hand, told her to go to her cabin, sit at the portholo, and that if an atthe sen. Mrs. Shdell obeyed his orders, was not molested

The Paris Patrie learns that the San Jacinto in Novem per last searched a French vessel, and also a Panish an Portuguese vessel. These facts, says the Patrie, are of ome importance, as proving that the Cabinet at Wast ington fancies that it has the power to exercise the right Some writers say that France will remain a quiet spe-

ator of passing events. Others state that there is a dis position to employ the army and navy in case of war. The preponderating feeling, however, is represented to b America.

It was reported that the French Minister at Washington had reported to his government a refusal on the part of the Cabinet at Washington to deliver up despatches addressed from Paris to the French Consuls at Charleston

and New Orleans.

The Patric has an article on the trouble between Eng land and America, in which it argues that France interested in the question at issue between them. But it says that if England fails to get reparation in the Tree affair a new state of things may ensue, and that if England recognises the Southern States the other Powers of Europe must necessarily take such a change into consideration, for the sake of their commercial interests and desire for the termination of the war. If the Southern confederacy, by its recognition by one of the great l'owers, should enjoy public rights as a nation, other States would have to consider what attitude such import ant modifications would impose upon them, and the Cabi net at Washington would have to bear the responsibility of a solution which the necessities of commerce and poli

tical influence would impose upon Europe.

The Parls Temps announces that Napoleon has tendered his services to the British government.

American government refuses to give satisfaction, the English Cabinet has resolved to recall Lord Lyons from Washington, recognise the Southern confederacy, and raise the blockade of the Southern ports. England would not then declare war, but leave it to the United States to

ment:-On the arrival of the news of the affair of the Trent the city of New York was spontaneo nated, the population joining with the governme and made energetic manifestations in favor of absolut ance to any demand on the part of England. The Paris Bourse, on the 4th inst., was firm at 69f. 55c

Contrary to expectation, Garibaldi had arrived at Turin and appeared in the Chamber of Deputies, where th Roman and Neapolitan question continued under dis

Ratazi explained the failure of the negotiations is reference to Rome, and stated he was convinced that the French government desired to terminate its occupation of Rome, and was a sincere friend to Italy. He said that his late visit to France was purely personal, and denied the malevolent rumors growing out of it.

Trues, Nov. 20, 1861.

In to-day's sittings of the Chamber of Depoties, Baron Reseason stated that he would shortly lay on the table of the House the documents relative to the differences be-tween Italy and Spain, concerning the Neapolitan ar-chives. gnor Messari proposed that a pension of one thousar es should be granted to every one of the thousan one who accompanied Garibaldi in his expedition

Switzerland.
BFRNE, Dec. 1, 1861. The Federal Council has addressed another note to France in reference to the affair of the Dappes, renewing its demands for satisfaction for the violation of Swiss ter-titory on the ground of the federal commissioners' report. The Federal Council also states in this note that Switzer-land will not enter into any negotiation with the French government under the present circumstances.

Germany.

The conclusion of a library of commerce detwert Found the Zollveren held a conference which lasted several hours. The Ministers of Foreign Affairs, of Prussia, and Com

Poland. polskie had withdrawn his resig The Marquis of Wielop

Turkey.
PARIS, Dec. I, 1861.
It is asserted on reliable authority that Austrian force have entered the Hertzegovina. The Turkish free corps have repulsed the Moutenegrin who had burnt the village of Ruze, and were there waiting reinforcements. The free corps were afterwards despatched to protect several villages threatened by the enemy.

India.

The Bembay mail reached Marseilles on the 4th inshe news is unimportant.

he news is unimportant.

Lord Canning had invested several Indian celebrities with the new Order of the Star of India.

British and neutral ships to India were insuring at ten

LONDON, Dec. 6, 1861. An Admiralty notice was issued yesterday requiring all men on leave of absence to return immediately t heir respective ships. The iron-clad, frigate Warrior is coaling for service of

he North American coast, if needed. There was quite a rise yesterday in sugar and salt No charters are now being taken for American vessels

Little or nothing is doing for passengers or cargoes.

Several of the morning papers have leaders on Mr Bright's recent speech. The Times says:-Let America judge by the speech of her greatest admirer how little can be said for her out rage upon a friendly, although neutral country. Let her

rage upon a friendry accountry even this comparatively moderate language is but a voice with an ocho.

Liverroot, Dec. 6, 1861.

Warnke preparations continue to be made.

A considerable number of troops are under orders to ave for Canada.

The steamship Persia has been chartered by the go-

The steamship Persia has been chartered by the government as well as the Australasian. The America takes the place of the latter for New York to morrow.

The London Daily New thinks that if the American government will treat the difficulty in the spirit that General Scott urges, war may be avoided.

All seamen on leave of absence are ordered to join their ships at once.

All seamen on leave of absence are ordered to join helr ships at once.

The American shipping interest is aiready disastrously

evitable. The tone of reserve of the French press increases. Several leading Paris papers blame the English government for having yielded to the pressure of public opinion as represented merely by Manchester and Liverpool, and or having acted so hastily in the Trent affair.

Sir Peter Lawrie, a well known citizen of London, is cad.

COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS.

LONDON MONEY MARKET.

The London money market on the 5th inst. was quiet.
The best bills were sold at 2\frac{\psi}{2}\times 2\frac{\psi}{2}\times per cent discount.

American securities had been forced at low rates to avoid the risk of loss from an apprehended stoppage of

Consols closed 4: 90% a 89%. The bullion in the Bank England has increased £195,000.

Eric Raifrond shares are quoted at 24 a 23. LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 6, 1861.

The Brokers' Circular reports the sales of the week at 29,000 bales, the market clesing at a decline of one penny to one and a quarter pompy per pound. At oneitime the decline was nearly two pence, but the market railled, The sales to speculators were 9,000, and to exporters 4,000 bales. The sales to-day (Friday) are estimated at 8,000 bales, including 3,000 to speculators and exporters, the market clesing steady at the annexed quotations:—

First. Middling.

Effect of the English News in Canada

Boston, Dec. 18, 1861. The Mayor of one of the cities of Canada West write that the people of that region are highly excited about the "indignity to the British flag," and military organizations are rapidly forming to resent it.

The tone of private letters by the Europa and Jura in-dicates firmness on the part of the English public to insist on the surrender of Mason and Sildell, but expresse the hope and belief that our government will give them up at once. Other correspondents predict that England INTERESTING FROM THE SOUTH.

Great Excitement About the News from England-The union Spirit Awakening-Reported Arrival of a Hessenger to Treat Respecting the Slidell and Mason Affair-The Fight at Fort Alleghany,

&c &c.,

FORTRESS MONROE, Dec. 17, 1861. A flag of truce has just come down from Norfolk, bring ing fourteen ladies and children. They report that the greatest excitement exists in Richmond and Norfolk, in regard to the news from England. How the intelligence reached Richmond I am unable to say, but they had the news this morning all over the South from where the first flag of truce went up. A great many people, & is said, will go against England should she interfere in the affair and demand Mason and Slidell. The Union spirit is evidently avakening.

The steamship Constitution, Capt. A. V. Fletcher sailed for Boston at midnight last night. It is supposed that she will there take on board three more regiments for some point on the Southern coast.

The Baltimore boat brought down this morning 101 men, the greater number belonging to the Seventy-ninth New York regiment. They have been discharged from the hospitals, and will join their regiments at Port Royal

at the first opportunity.

By a flag of truce to-day we have received Bichmond

papers of yesterday.

The Richmond Whig has received a few additional particulars of the attack upon Edward Johnson's forces on the 13th inst. at Camp Alleghany. The federals were reported 5,000 strong. The fight began at seven o'clock ported 5,000 strong. The light of all a level as the policy of the Whig says the Confederate lost twenty-five killed and eighty wounded, and that the federals carried away their wounded, and left ninety to one hundred dead on the field. Johnson's force was effect hundred, and after the battle he was reinforced by two addition

The Richmond Whig calls upon all farmers of Virginia near the lines of railroads to build icehouses and collect large supplies of ice during the present season, as the whole South will have to get its ice from Virginia in the

a resolution tendering sympathy to the citizens of Charles ton, and instructing the Committee on Finance to inquire into the expediency of an appropriation for their relief.

It was known in Richmond this morning that a Com

missioner had arrived in this country from the British afternoon, and the steamtug sent out to meet it has just

Twelve or fourteen passengers, mostly ladies, were brought down, and they took passage for Baltimore. From the Norfolk Day Book of to-day we learn that is Judge Monroe were sworn in as Senators from Ken tecky, which State has just been admitted to the con-

Hon, Win, Porcher Miles, of South Carolina, is exceedingly ill with pneumonia, according to a despatch from Richmond.

The Day Book says the Third Georgia regiment returned Monday morning to Portsmouth from Roanok

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18, 1861 Richmond and Norfolk papers of yesterday have been

lars of Colonel Johnson's repulse of the enemy on the Alleghany Mountains. It was not known with what loss the enemy were driven back, but they are said to have left seventy or eighty dead on the field, having, it is supposed, carried off a number of their killed is supposed, earried off a number of their killed pursued. Among the killed on our side was Capt. Anderson, of the Lee Battery and Lieut. Thompson of the Marion Guard. The victory is said to have been dearly bought by a considerable loss on our side. It is thought that it is not unlikely our success will be followed up by an assault upon the enemy's intreachments on Cheat Mountain, which are about seventeen miles distant from the scane of the late battle, which was on the summit of the Allejany, on the pike from Staunton.

The same paper denounces the police system of Richmond as a public unissance.

The robel Congress is said by the Examiner to have confirmed, up to yesterday, not less than 7,000 army appointments.

The robel Congress is said by the Examiner to have confirmed, up to yesterday, not less than 1,000 army appointments.

The Centreville (Fairfax county) correspondent of the Richmond Dispatch writes, Dec. 15:—The fortifications around Centreville are now completed, and present quite a formidable appearance. For field fortifications they are built very strong, some of the works being bastloned forts, constructed in such a manner as shows skilful engineering on the part of somebody—Gen. Beauregard, I presume. Great care seems to have been taken with the embrasures, which are built to combine convenience for handling the guns with the best method for protecting the men. They are very strongly built with hardles and samb bage, and will stand a heavy cannounding before giving way; the armament of the fort havings arrived from a place where they make most excellent guns. They have been put in position, and all that is now asked is for McClellan to bring on his "Yankess." Different artiliery corps are drilling in these batteries hearly every day, and some have become proficient marksmen. All have oblained perfectly the range of any point where a hostile battery could be planted.

A series of resolutions have been adopted by the Legislature of framessee, relative to the opening of the Southern ports, and recommending that no crop of cotton be seeded the ensuing year.

R. M. T. Hunter is consured by the correspondent of the Examiner for wishing to resign his place in the Centedrate Cabinet, 'it's avoid the trials which possibly await the administration."

The Norfolk Day Book has a notice of the postponement of a meeting at the City Hall "to take some steps for the relief of the sufferers by the late fire at Charleston, S. C." To which is added—As there is another meeting called on the same night at the City Hall to consider some plan for the better protection of our property, I would most respectfully suggest that the location be changed to Oxford Hall.

The Norfolk Day Book of vesterday contains a telegram from Richmon

Hon. Porcher Miles, member of Congress, is exceedingly iff of postunents.

In Congress, to-day, Henry C. Burnett and Judge Moncover sworn in as members from Kentucky.

The Day Book also publishes extracts from the Charleston Mercury and Courier in relation to the fire and the feeling in Charleston, as follows:—

The Examiner says that intelligence, apparently better founded than that which generally finds its way from Washington, has been received of an intention on the part of the military autherities of the United States to make an advance on the lines of the Potoma, and risk another general engagement, within the next ten days.

Silver is selling in Richmond at twenty-five and gold at thirty-five per cent.

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The Third regiment of Georgia Volunteers has returned to Norfelk from Romoke Island.

The Centre-life correspondent of the Richmond Dispatch says that Hampion's Legion has gone down to Colchester to look after the Union men, who were expected to cross at that point and advance towards the Occoquan.

An adjourned meeting of the citizens of Richmond-was hold last night to take into consideration the manning of the batteries around that city.

The Mercory of Friday says:—Yesterday was a gloomy day for Charleston. Business was universally suspended and with one impulse our community united in giving sympathy and aid to the victims of the great public calamity.

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repair.
General Humphrey Marshall has some 4,000 or 5,000 men under his command, and swears that he is going to dine in Lexington, Ky., on Christmas day.

News from South America

Lasson, Nov. 30, 1861. The ropal mail steamship Magdalena has arrived from the Brazils, and will leave for Southampton at two o'clock this afternoon, with thirty-eight passengers, £44,600 in specie, 1,404 bags of codee, 350 bags of tapicca, 1,319 rolls of tobacco and 147 packages of sundries.

Rio Jarrino, Nov. 8, 1861. Exchange on London, 25% to 25%; coffee, good first. 6§400 a 6;600. Shipments since the departure of the last steamer—154,780 bags, including 118,287 for the channel, Stock—115,000 bags. Freights for the channel, 50s. a 60s.

60s.

At Bahia exchange on London was quoted at 25%; colton, 9 600 a 9 800; sagar, whites, 12 400 a 2 600; brown, 2 a 2 100. Exchange on London at Pernambuco, 25% a 26; sagar, second qualities, 4 a 4 200; brown, 2 600 a 2 100; cotton, 12 a 12 100.

The French steamer Navarre arrived at Pernambuco on the 12th inst.

News from San Francisco.
San Francisco, Dec. 18, 1861.
Arrived, ships Europa, Boston; B. F. Horie, New York.
The overland mail makes bad time latterly. A letter sent from New York by steamer got through six to seven gays earlier than one sent oyurland.

Arrival of the Special Messengers and their Departure for Washington.

&c.,

The Beston Post of yesterday gives the following intelligence relative to the bearers of despatches who arrived by the Europa:—

The special merenger of Her Britannic Majesty's government, bearing despatches for Lord Lyons, the English Minister at Washington, relative to the Mason and Shidelf affair, arrived in the Europa. He is the Hon, C. C. Seymour. He was received on landing by the Marquis de Louadda, the British Consul here, and driven in a cleas carriage to the consultant office in State street. He was subsequently the guest of the Consult and Jeri in the evening train for New York, with the intention of reaching Washington to night. ing Washington to sight.

It was also understood that there was a bearer of despatches for Canada among the pussengers of the Europa, and that he left for Montreal in the half-past five o clock train.

train.

The United States messenger by the Europa, with despatches from Minister Adams, left this city for Washington by the shore line land route at hall-past eight of clock last evening.

Mr. William Cunard, one of the proprietors of the well.

Captain Seymour, the Queen's messenger, arrived in this city by the Fall River coute at an early nour yester-day morning. He left for Washington by the first through

train, after stopping in this city about one hour.

Mr. Cooke, the special messenger from Mr. Adams, one Astor House early yesterday morning, and left this city for Washington by the six o'clock through train less

We stated in the HERALD of yesterday that the Cupard mail steamship Africa would not leave until five o'clock on Thursday afternoon. Since then we have learned that

the following is the program The Africa will leave the Cunard dock at ten o'clock this morning, and will anchor in the river. At four o'clock in the afternoon her passengers will go on board; and will remain there until she sails for Liverpool.

The orders to the office here, we learn, are from the British Minister in Washington, Lord Lyons, that she shall not depart from this port for Liverpool un til the Queen's messenger arrives with despatches for

## THE FIRE AT CHARLESTON.

We are enabled, by the despatches received on Wed esday from Baltimore and accounts taken from Richars of the great conflagration in Charleston, S. C., on the 11th instant. They differ somewhat from that which we published on Sunday as to the area of the fire-that portion of East Bay running from Market to Broad street, State street, Hayne street, and portions of Queen and Chalmers, between Meeting and East Bay, having escaped.

All the banks and newspaper offices therefore escaped

prised within the following streets:—East Bay, on both sides, from Pinckney to Hazel, along Hazel westerly to Meeting street, down Meeting on both sides to Horlbe alley, along Horlbeck's alley and Clifford street to Archdale, down Archdale to Queen, along Queen to Mazyck, down Mazyck to Broad, along Broad to Savage; making s clean sweep of all the residences from this point, in Savage, New. Logan and Broad streets, up to King; and

Cumberland, to the northeast corner of Warnet street.

The fire, as we have nated in Mr. Russell's sach and blind factory, corner of Hazel street and East Bay, through the negligence of reachery of some negroes, at about nine o'clock on me night of the 11th inst., and in the short space of seven nours reduced to ashes over five hundred houses, the principal portion of which were dwellings. counts the fiames had crossed Broad street and destroyed all the houses in Savage, New and Logan streets. The buildings in the burnt district were nearly all wood, old and closely built, and so exceedingly inflammable in their character that the flames spread with terrible rapidity; driving hundreds of poor families from their homes in the

nost utter state of destitution.

Losses estimated at seven million dollars. BALTIMORE, Dec. 18, 1861.
We have the Norfolk Day Book of Tuesday, which contains extracts from the Charleston Courier and Mercury relative to the fire; but there is little additional to what

has already been telegraphed.

W. P. Russell & Co., owners of the factory where the fire commenced, say the establishment had been closed and the furnace of the boiler covered with water before the men left. The proprietor did not leave for an hour and a half or more after the work-men. When he left everything was in order and there were no signs of a fire. In about an hour and a half afterwards Mr. Russell heard the alarm. From these circumstances he infers that the fire was set, or under an old shed adjoining his establishment, in allow-ing their camp fires to get the better of them. After the breaking out of the fire the flames continued to increase n violence, and, with the scarcity of water, seemed to defy all human efforts to arrest them. Keeping a southwesterly course, the roaring elements rushed through like forked lightning. The work of destruction in King and Queen streets was truly terrible. Roof after roof fell in, and the fire rushed out of the windows and lapped around the buildings in an awfully sublime manner. The flames spread right and

end of Broad, nor could the work of destruction and des solation have been stayed had it not been that the fire exhausted itself for want of material. In addition to the churches already mentioned destroyed

oft, making a clean sweep of the residences in Logan

New, Savage and Mazyck streets and the lov

was the Quaker meeting house in King street. The Savings Institution was burned, and the large Southern Express building is also gone. The Mills House was only sayed through almost superhuman exertions; and its blackened walls attest a severe trial.

The Catholic cathedral was rated one of the finest architectural ornaments of the city. It was constructed of brown stone, in a very massive and costly manner: The fine building of the Sisters of Mercy was saved. The extensive foundry and machine shops of Cameron & Co. were entirely destroyed. They embraced eight buildings, an office, an erecting shop, machine and fitting shop, foundry, blacksmith shop, two boiler shops, pattern storeroom and iron room. The stock of material on hand, including a large quantity for government purposes, was valued at not less than \$200,000. The insurance is not stated. McCabe & Hauckel's State cotton press was also de-

stroyed. The value of the building and machinery was \$90,000. The building contained 300,000 pounds of Sea Island cotton, belonging to Edisto and John's islands planters. There was no insurance on the cotton. The press was insured for \$23,000. Fifty-two bales of upland cotton were also destroyed.

of Bishop Lynch, George M. Coffin, Mr. J. B. Haywards zyck, Capt. Rutledge, John Bonnell, Messrs, Middleton, Nickaig, Gravely and Williams.

The Courier says the most gratifying incident of the as firemen and laborers. The entire population, male and female, worked most earnestly. Subscriptions for the poor sufferers by the terrible conflagration had been

and shelter for those deprived of houses by the sad calamity. Many were obtained on application to F. St. Holmes, at the Soldiers' Wayside Depot, corner of Aun

The Mercury of Friday says yesterday was a gloomy day for Charleston. Business was universally suspend and with one impulse our community united in giving sympathy and aid to the victims of the great public ca-

amity.

The Courier says the fearful conflagration that has just passed over our city will cause the 12th of December, 1861, hereafter to be remembered as one of those dark and trying periods which for the moment seem to paralyse all the long cherished hopes and bright anticipations of the future. We have been visited by one of those mysterious dispensations of Providence which we cannot attempt to solve. Our city has received a terrible blow which will take the work of years to repair. Let us nerve ourselves then for another start, thankful we are still left with the same bold spirit and strong arms, to make a new and perhaps more substantial prosperity for

THE DETENTION OF THE AFRICA.